



The Governor's Council on Substance Abuse was established in 1995 to respond to the significant human, social and economic costs substance abuse inflicts on individuals, families, and communities in Washington State

The Council

- ❖ Advises the Governor and State agencies on substance abuse issues by providing recommendations for policy, program, and research strategies.
- ❖ Works with communities to develop common substance abuse reduction goals and strategies.

The Council's work is based on the belief that an effective substance abuse reduction strategy requires a cross-systems' which consists of:

PREVENTION efforts to empower individuals and communities to meet the challenges of life events and transitions by creating and reinforcing conditions that promote healthy behaviors;

CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY TREATMENT based on the knowledge that alcoholism and addiction to other drugs is a progressive disease and treatment leads to positive behavioral change and abstinence from the use of drugs; and

LAW AND JUSTICE actions by law enforcement, the criminal justice system and the courts to reduce illegal activities related to the use, abuse and trafficking of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs.

The 26 member Council includes, private industry, local and tribal government, treatment providers, community groups, educators, and law enforcement. The directors of seven state agencies and legislators from the Democratic and Republican caucuses of the House and Senate represent state government.

Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development provides staffing for the Council. The Washington Interagency Network Against Substance Abuse (WIN) is a resource to the Council for policy analysis and recommendations.

Council members serve three-year terms. The Council meets six times a year. Council members serve as volunteers, but are reimbursed for travel and lodging expenses.

For More Information

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